145. Education and other matters relating to Jenmies.

Mr. Nilakandaru Nilakandaru (Member, Jenmi, Kottayam Division) represented that, while other communities in the State were striving for attaining material prosperity, the Malayala Brahmin Jenmies were solely engaged in religious education and offering prayers for the welfare of the State as a whole. This vocation of theirs needed an education totally dissimilar to the secular education imparted in all public schools. Two special schools were established for them, one at Mannadi and the other at Kumaranallur, and the community was, no doubt, thankful for the same. But the instruction given in the Kumaranallur school was not of the kind wanted by the community. Moreover, the two schools established in the State did not fully meet the demands of the Malayala Brahmins. In the past, there were private schools of the required type managed from common funds belonging to the community. Gradually, the sites together with the school buildings under reference were absorbed in the temples to which they were attached and the schools disappeared. The Government might conduct an investigation into the matter, resuscitate the educational institutions thus absorbed and afford the necessary educational facilities to the Malayala Brahmin Jenmies. He also emphasised the necessity for imparting secular education side by side with religious education to the members of his community.

The Member stated that there was a good deal of confusion on account of the South Canara Brahmins and Malayala Brahmins being called 'Poties' and requested that the members of the Malayala Brahmin community be separately taken into consideration in the matter of political privileges.

Dewan's reply.—Everybody knows that you are the Jenmies of the country. You must remember that, though you are numerically small, in view of the magnitude of your interests as Jenmies, you have been given separate representation in the Legislative Council and in the Assembly. In regard to representation in the Municipal Councils, I agree that you should be represented on those bodies wherever your interests are large. That is, no doubt, a reasonable proposition, and if there are such Municipal Councils on which you are not represented, it is for you to bring the matter to the notice of Government. In the case of Village Panchayat Courts, the principle of communal representation is not the only guiding principle. If locally there are members of your community who are fit to be put on such Benches, their claims are considered.

You say that both South Canara Brahmins and Malayala Brahmins are called Poties and that Malayala Brahmins thereby lose their individuality. Your appellation does not matter. What does really matter is the distinction between Jenmies and non-Jenmies.

In regard to English education, I admit that you are backward. Your case will be considered along with the cases of other communities which are backward in point of English education.

In regard to special schools suited to the traditions and habits of your community, these schools, in my opinion, should be maintained out of the special funds which, you say, exist, and which Mr. Trivikramar Vasudevar has referred to as existing in abundance.

Member.—The funds are in the enjoyment of other people.

Dewan.—That is a matter, as I told Mr. Trivikramar Vasudevar, in which Government will give you facilities for establishing your claims. But it is for you to prove the claims.

146. Necessity for introducing Tamil as a court language in Tamil taluks.

Mr. Kanakku Matevan Pillai Kumaraswami Pillai (Member, Agastisvaram Taluk) submitted that the people of Nanjinad were experiencing serious difficulties owing to the fact that the schools maintained in their taluks were Malayalam schools and that their children were forced to study Malayalam, to the prejudice of Tamil, their mother-tongue, and that this was the primary cause of their backwardness in the matter of education. He requested that this grievance might be

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redressed by declaring Tamil as the medium of instruction in Nanjinad and by converting all the Malayalam schools there into Tamil Schools.

In regard to teaching in Tamil schools, the Member said that considerable hardship was experienced owing to the circumstance that those qualified in Malayalam only were being appointed as teachers in Tamil schools. He suggested that, in Tamil schools, teachers duly qualified in Tamil should alone be appointed. For the Vernacular School Leaving examination, those who took up Tamil as the optional had an examination in Tamil composition only. This was not desirable, since a knowledge of grammar was necessary to enable the students to obtain a fair knowledge of any language. Tamil Grammar should, therefore, be taught both for the compulsory and the optional groups in Tamil up to the School Final class. Considerable difficulty was being experienced by students as they were not able to get Tamil text-books in time, and as the books selected were not useful ones. A few more Tamil-knowing members should be appointed on the Text-Book Committee, the Committee being asked to select such useful books as were found available at the time of selection. Great difficulty was being felt by the people of Nanjinad on account of the fact that Malayalam was the court language in their taluks. To prepare a petition or plaint they had to seek the help of others, in spite of the fact that they knew Tamil fully well. The statements given by them were recorded in Malayalam and they were asked to sign something which they could not read. For the money they paid by way of taxes, etc., they were given receipts written in Malayalam, with the result that they were not able to satisfy themselves as to whether the amounts remitted by them were fully receipted. To remove these difficulties Tamil should be made the State language in all courts, revenue, registration and other offices in Nanjinad, all office correspondence being carried on only in Tamil.

Dewan's reply.—In the matter of converting Malayalam schools into Tamil schools and in the matter of appointing Tamil teachers, I have already given my reply to Mr. Ganapati Pillai and I do not want to repeat it. As regards the introduction of Tamil as a court language, the High Court say that Tamil need not be made a court language. I know that there will be some difficulty if the court language is different from the language of the people, but I do not know whether there is, after all, so much difference between Tamil and Malayalam as to render it impossible for men speaking the former not to understand the latter.

147. Ways and means of improving the economic condition of the country.

Mr. P. C. Raman Pillai (Member, Municipal Council, Vilavankod) said that nearly 80 per cent of the whole of Travancore depended on agriculture for their livelihood and they invested whatever money they had on the cultivation and improvement of lands. Formerly, such investments secured rates of interest not less than 18 per cent but now that the population of the country had increased and the extent of land under cultivation remained almost the same, the outturn on investments in landed property had become very much less, approximating only $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent or so. The Government should find out other means to increase the outturn on money investments. They should, in the wake of the westerners, establish as many industrial schools as possible in the country and provide for the students trained in them with ample facilities for utilising their special talents in various industrial pursuits. Industrial and trading companies should be established in the country and the people should be encouraged to evince greater interest in the working and management of those companies and take shares in them. Railways should be extended and debenture loans raised to meet the expenditure on this account. The Government had guaranteed a certain percentage of interest on the capital involved in the Quilon-Shencottah Railway and were incurring some loss every year, but, with the opening of the Trivandrum-Quilon railway, the loss in the shape of guaranteed interest had been made up, and the railway had become a profitable concern. When the last debenture loan was raised by Government, the people had not sufficient faith in such transactions, but at present

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